

REMARKS

Claims 1-12 are pending in the present application, new claims 13-17 are added herein, thus, claims 1-17 are now pending in the present application. Reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-7 and 9-12 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being allegedly anticipated by Smith II (U.S. Patent No. 5,768,163, hereinafter "Smith"). The rejection is respectfully traversed.

In making the rejection, the Examiner asserts that Smith discloses a personal computer as claimed including, for example, a display unit having a display face and operatively connected to a base unit and a chamber capable of accepting an external device, the chamber being arranged in the display unit. We respectfully disagree with this characterization of Smith.

A close review of Smith reveals that in accordance with exemplary embodiments of the invention, a hinged connector is placed *on an outside* of a case of a host computer such as a portable computer, notebook computer, or laptop. The hinged connector further includes an electrical connector to which various devices may be connected or disconnected. The connector of Smith is connected to the case via a hinge allowing devices to be rotated (column 1, lines 57-64). It is respectfully submitted that this does not amount to an anticipatory disclosure of, for example, the claimed chamber capable of accepting an external device, the chamber being arranged *in the display unit*. Further, in accordance with preferred embodiments of Smith's hinged connector 33, an electrical connector 51 is included thereon thus requiring any

external devices to be connected *outside* the case of the computer as distinguished from the claimed invention where the chamber capable of accepting of an external device, the chamber being arranged in the display unit, to enhance the function of the personal computer, e.g. to allow the external device to be used without obstruction by the hands of the operator or the like.

Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that a *prima facie* case of anticipation has not been established in that Smith fails to disclose all the claimed features as required. It is respectfully submitted therefore that the rejection of claims 1-7 and 9-12 be reconsidered and withdrawn.

The indication of allowability with regard to claim 8 is noted with appreciation. However, Applicant reserve the opportunity to rewrite claim 8 pending the outcome of further prosecution on the merits.

In addition, new claims 13-17 are provided herein to provide additional coverage and are believed allowable for at least the reasons as set forth hereinabove, e.g. the cited art fails to teach or suggest a display unit having a chamber into which at least a portion of an external device may be placed. Accordingly, new claims 13-17 are believed allowable. Favorable consideration of new claims 13-17 is respectfully requested.

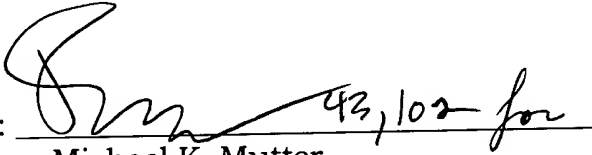
CONCLUSION

Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Robert L. Scott II (Reg. No. 43,102) at the telephone number of (703) 205-8000, to conduct an interview in an effort to expedite prosecution in connection with the present application.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

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